

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method, comprising:
 - a) providing: i) a flosequinan racemate; ii) triphenylphosphine; and
 - 5 b) reacting, in a solvent, said flosequinan racemate with said triphenylphosphine under conditions such that a racemic mixture of 7-fluoro-1-methyl-3-methylthio-4-quinolone is produced.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of carbon tetrachloride and a mixture of xylene and carbon tetrabromide.
- 10 3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
 - c) treating said racemic mixture of 7-fluoro-1-methyl-3-methylthio-4-quinolone with (1R)-(-)-(10-camphorsulfonyl)oxaziridine under conditions such that R-(+)-flosequinan is produced in enantiomeric excess.
- 15 4. A method, comprising: ✓
 - a) providing: i) a flosequinan racemate; ii) triphenylphosphine; and
 - b) reacting, in a solvent, said flosequinan racemate with said triphenylphosphine under conditions such that a racemic mixture of 7-fluoro-1-methyl-3-methylthio-4-quinolone is produced.
 - 20 c) treating said racemic mixture of 7-fluoro-1-methyl-3-methylthio-4-quinolone with (1S)-(+)-(10-camphorsulfonyl)oxaziridine under conditions such that S-(-)-flosequinan is produced in enantiomeric excess.